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512.89651X00 4530/00/JC*1* 

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Lin-Ying HU et al

Serial No.:

To Be Assigned

Filed:

March 3, 2001

(Concurrently Herewith)

For:

METHOD INTENDED FOR GRADUAL DEFORMATION

OF SEQUENTIAL SIMULATIONS OF A HETEROGENOUS MEDIUM SUCH AS AN

UNDERGROUND ZONE

Art Unit:

Examiner:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231 March 2, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the claims as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3 and 4 as follows:

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising gradual deformation of the model representative of the heterogeneous medium simultaneously in relation to the structural parameters and to the random numbers.